REMARKS

In the parent application Ser. No. 09/276,233, filed March 25, 1999, the Examiner required restriction of pending claims 1-25 into three groups: Group I (Claims 1-7, 22, and 26); Group II (Claims 8-21); and Group III (Claims 23-25). Applicants file this divisional application to pursue the claims in Group II of the parent application.

If there is any fee due in connection with the filing of this Preliminary Amendment, please charge the fee to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

FINNEGAN, HENDERSON, FARABOW, GARRETT & DUNNER, L.L.P.

Dated: November 18, 2003

Linda J/Thayer (Reg. No. 45,681

FINNEGAN HENDERSON FARABOW GARRETT & DUNNER LLP

1300 I Street, NW Washington, DC 20005 202.408.4000 Fax 202.408.4400 www.finnegan.com